

# National Canners Association

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Information  
Letter



For N. C. A.  
Members

Membership Letter No. 64.

May 17, 1924.

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## Germination Tests of Seed Peas and Sweet Corn.

As announced some time ago, arrangements were made by the Bureau of Raw Products Research of the National Canners Association with the United States Department of Agriculture Seed Laboratory for germination tests of seed samples which might be submitted by canners.

Up to date, fifty-eight samples of sweet corn have been received from canners in Maine, New York, and Ohio. The average germination of these samples is 88.6 per cent. Six samples tested between sixty and seventy per cent., and the lowest test in the entire lot was 52 per cent.

Fifty samples of peas were submitted from canners in Illinois, New York, and Wisconsin. The average germination of these samples was 91.2 per cent. Only two samples tested 70 per cent. or less, the lowest being 66 per cent.

## Secretary Hoover Urges Early Storage of Coal.

In a letter to this office, Secretary Hoover urges the members of the canning industry to anticipate their requirements of coal for the fall season and have shipments made in the months of May, June, and July so as to avoid the great danger point of traffic congestion in the fall season, when the combined crop, winter goods, and household coal movements tend to create a car shortage. "The fall car shortage always has the effect of increasing the price of coal and of seriously disturbing the whole economic machine. There is therefore every transportation and financial reason for storing coal during the next few months in preparation for the autumn need."



Bureau of Chemistry Gives Opinion on Adulteration of Fruit Products.

The Association is just in receipt of the following letter, which is self explanatory:

May 8, 1924.

"The Bureau of Chemistry has learned that there is an impression in certain quarters that the Government will tolerate moldy and decayed berries in fruit products up to 15 per cent. This is so at variance with the policy of the Bureau that it feels called upon to state its position on the question.

"Under the Federal Food and Drugs Act, a product is deemed adulterated 'if it consists in whole or in part of a filthy, decomposed, or putrid animal or vegetable substance \* \* \*'. Failure to exclude moldy, decayed, or insect infected materials from food products so far as reasonably practicable will result in an adulterated article.

"From factory and laboratory studies, the Bureau concludes that it is entirely possible for any careful packer to reduce the amount of objectionable berries to a negligible amount.

"Packers are cautioned to use the utmost care to sort out and eliminate from their products all decayed, moldy, or otherwise unfit fruit. Receipts of raw stock should be so regulated as to avoid gluts which will cause delay in packing and consequent decay.

"Ample provision should be made for handling the fruit expeditiously and there should be sufficient help and equipment for the most careful sorting. Abundance of good daylight or good electric lighting should be available for every worker. Many packers fail to realize the importance of proper lighting for their employees."

(Signed) C.A.BROWNE,

Acting Chief, Bureau of Chemistry.

Department of Commerce Reports Regarding Needs of Various Countries for Canned Foods.

In a current bulletin sent out by the Department of Commerce, the wants of foreign countries are reflected in enquiries received by the Department from the following countries, which have specifically asked for information regarding the following commodities:

Australia, Canned salmon (red); canned oysters; Austria, Canned corned beef, canned tongue, canned meats, canned fruit, condensed milk; Belgium, Canned fruit, canned salmon, and canned lobster; France, Canned salmon; Java, Canned salmon and sardines, cheap grades; The Netherlands, Canned foods, such as salmon and California fruit; and the Straits Settlements, Canned fruits and vegetables.

Joint Advertising for Norwegian Canned Fish Products.

At a recent meeting of the Norwegian Ministry, a proposal was framed providing for an export tax on canned fish products, the proceeds of which will be used for joint advertising abroad, advices from Copenhagen to the Department of Commerce state. The tax, according to the proposal, will be ten ore per case of one hundred boxes or part thereof, regardless of size of case. The tax



will only affect preserved canned goods, herring and "brisling". All funds derived from this tax will be administered by a board of five members, of which three are to be men actively engaged in the canning industry. It is expected that the tax will be put into effect by a Government decree.

Alabama Laws for Foreign Corporations Engaged in  
Business within the State.

Foreign corporations must file instrument of writing designating agent and place of business in this State. - Every corporation not organized under the laws of this State shall, before engaging in or transacting any business in this State, file an instrument of writing, under the seal of the corporation and signed officially by the president and secretary thereof, designating at least one known place of business in this State and an authorized agent or agents residing thereat; and when any such corporation shall abandon or change its place of business as designated in such instrument, or shall substitute another agent or agents for the agent or agents designated in such instrument of writing, such corporation shall file a new instrument of writing as herein provided, before transacting any further business in this State.

Canning companies that are incorporated and are interested in doing business in the State of Alabama should apply to Daniel W. Troy, Resident Legal Agent for Foreign Corporations, Bell Building, Montgomery, Alabama, for further information regarding the necessary acts in order to qualify for doing business in that State.

United States the Largest Consumer of Italian Tomato Preserves.

The following table shows the principal countries to which Italian tomato preserves were exported during 1923:

COUNTRY	1923 Quintals.
United States.....	145,927
Great Britain.....	91,012
Argentina.....	50,891
Belgium.....	27,565
France.....	40,127
Switzerland.....	10,509

Department of Agriculture Compiles Estimate of Crop  
Losses from Plant Diseases during 1922.

The Plant Disease Survey Office of the United States Department of Agriculture has compiled estimates of crop losses from plant diseases in the United States in 1922. The estimated reduction in yield of tomatoes due to plant diseases for the principal tomato growing states is as follows:

Indiana	14%	California	5%
Maryland	40%	Utah	4%
Delaware	55.5%	Missouri	32%
New Jersey	29%	Ohio	17%
New York	29%	Virginia	37%
		Tennessee	20%

Calculating from the final figures on acreage of tomatoes for





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manufacturing in these states for 1922, the above estimates of loss from plant disease would be equivalent to a sacrifice of the crop from 49,851 acres.

List of Buyers of Food Products in All Foreign Markets.

The Commercial Intelligence Division of the Department of Commerce has compiled trade lists from foreign markets of firms of good repute. Among the lists are those dealing in foodstuffs and the Association will be very glad to furnish its members, upon request, lists of food dealers in any of the foreign markets.

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